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TRADE AND DEVELOPMENT BOARD
Commission on Trade in Goods
and Services, and Commodities
Expert Meeting on the Impact of Changing
Supply-and-Demand Market Structures on
Commodity Prices and Exports of Major
Interest to Developing Countries
Geneva, 7-9 July 1999

PROVISIONAL AGENDA AND ANNOTATIONS

I. Provisional agenda

1. Election of officers

2. Adoption of the agenda and organization of work

3. Impact of changing supply-and-demand market structures on commodity prices and exports of major interest to developing countries

4. Adoption of the outcome of the Meeting

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II. Annotations to the provisional agenda

Item 1: Election of officers

1. It is recommended that the Expert Meeting elect a Chairperson and a Vice-Chairperson-cum-Rapporteur.

Item 2: Adoption of the agenda and organization of work

2. The provisional agenda for the Expert Meeting on the Impact of Changing Supply-and-Demand Market Structures on Commodity Prices and Exports of Major Interest to Developing Countries is reproduced in section I above. The provisional schedule of meetings for the three days is attached to this document.

Item 3: Impact of changing supply-and-demand market structures on commodity prices and exports of major interest to developing countries

3. As decided by the Commission on Trade in Goods and services, and Commodities, at its third session (28 September - 2 October 1998), this Expert Meeting is convened to examine the impact of changing supply-and-demand market structures on commodity prices and exports of major interest to developing countries. It is proposed that the Meeting consider three essential aspects of this overall agenda topic:

(a) A review of the main changes in market structures, both on the supply and on the demand side, over the past decade or two, and underlying factors;

(b) An assessment of the impact of these changes on price formation for commodities, developing countries' income from commodity exports and the evolution of the commodity crisis; and

(ci) An examination of national and international policy actions which could mitigate the negative effects that changing market structures may have on developing countries and countries in transition.

4. As a background to its discussions, the Expert Meeting will have available to it a report by the UNCTAD secretariat (TD/B/COM.1/EM.10/2) on the impact of changing supply-and-demand market structures on commodity prices and exports of major interest to developing countries. The Meeting will also have available to it a number of background papers prepared by invited experts. These papers will be distributed in their original language at the Meeting.

Documentation

TD/B/COM.1/EM.10/2 Impact of changing supply-and-demand market structures on commodity prices and exports of major interest to developing countries

Item 4: Adoption of the outcome of the Meeting

5. The Expert Meeting will adopt its recommendations/findings/conclusions at the end of the Meeting. The final report will be prepared under the authority of the Chairperson after the conclusion of the Meeting.

SCHEDULE OF THE MEETING

Day 1 (7 July 1999)	Day 2 (8 July 1999)	Day 3 (9 July 1999)
(10 a.m. - 1 p.m.) Plenary Opening statement Item 1: Election of officers Item 2: Adoption of the agenda and organization of work Informal session Item 3: Impact of changing supply-and-demand market structures on commodity prices and exports of major interest to developing countries: (a) Review of the main changes in market structures, both on the supply and on the demand side, over the past decade or two, and underlying factors	*(10 a.m. - 1 p.m.)* Informal session Item 3: (b) Assessment of the impact of these changes on price formation for commodities, developing countries' income from commodity exports and the evolution of the commodity crisis	*(10 a.m. - 1 p.m.)* Informal session Item 3: (c) Examination of national and international policy actions which could mitigate the negative effects that changing market structures may have on developing countries and countries in transition Consideration of the outcome of the Meeting
(3 p.m. - 6 p.m.) Informal session (continued) Item 3 (a): (continued)	*(3 p.m. - 6 p.m.)* Informal session (continued) Item 3 (b): (continued)	*(3 p.m. - 6 p.m.)* Plenary (closing) Item 4: Adoption of the outcome of the Meeting